GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5267
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
ON- FIELD USE OF SEEDS DEVELOPED BY ICAR
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the laboratories under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have a dismal record of translating their research/development efforts into real on-field inputs for the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor indicating the number of seeds varieties developed by said laboratories and number out of these actually transferred to farmers;

(c) whether the farmers continue to rely heavily on private sector for their hybrid seeds requirement despite heavy investment by the Government in this sector; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide good quality hybrid seeds to the farmers through Government agencies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) In fact the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has done commendable work in development of new Varieties and hybrids of various crops. A total of 614 varieties and hybrids have been released and notified during the last three years (2004-2006). These varieties and hybrids have wider adoption in different agro-climatic zones of the country.

(c) & (d): The public as well as private sector seed producing agencies are supplying seed to farmers. In order to provide good quality hybrid seed to the farmer through Government Agencies, assistance is given to State/ Seed Producing Agencies under Hybrid Rice Seed programme, Technology Mission on Cotton and Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize.